



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND A PRODUCTION OF MVSKOKE MEDIA

Executive order declares state of emergency in MCN

Administration issues burn ban throughout MCN jurisdictional boundaries; provides cooling stations

Media Release
MCN Public Relations
OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger declared a “State of Emergency” throughout all areas within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In an executive order released Aug. 2, he stated, “Due to the extreme heat, drought and fire conditions existing in the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I hereby declare a state of emergency for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.”

The MCN Emergency Response Team activated the “Emergency Operations Plan,” which committed all departments and employees to provide necessary and expedient services to vulnerable citizens (with an emphasis on households with elders and small children) in order to protect lives.

The executive branch also issued a proclamation banning outdoor burning due to the extreme



MNN/Gerald Wofford
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation issued a burn ban across the jurisdictional boundaries Aug. 2 in an executive order from Principal Chief George Tiger.

heat and drought conditions. The ban included open outdoor burning of debris, trash, grass and or building construction materials, the discarding of matches, ashes or burning material and fireworks. The ban also prohibited recreational, camp and bonfires, with the exception of those used for Muscogee ceremonial or religious purposes. MCN community center facilities and tribal offices in the outlying

regions of the eight-county jurisdiction will also be made available as a cooling station for any person desiring respite from the heat. Tribal police and community health representatives (CHRs) will also conduct welfare checks on those individuals known to be in a vulnerable situation. “Protection of our elders is a top priority,” Tiger said. In addition, MCN Social Service-

es and Housing Division is offering window air conditioner units to those with no other means of cooling where possible. Any Muscogee (Creek) citizen with cooling needs may call the tribe’s main number at (800) 482-1979 and will be referred to the Division of Community Services. After hours, all calls will be forwarded to the Lighthorse Police for further disposition.

MCN Emergency Response Team responds to Mannford fires

Media Release
MCN Public Relations
OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation responded to the grass fires and fire-related issues in Creek County Aug. 4. The MCN is currently assisting the Mannford area in relief efforts. The use of a generator to provide electricity to the Freedom Hills Baptist Church has been made and non-perishable items, water and school supplies for citizens affected in that area will also be donated to those in need. Freedom Hills Church was set up as a holding place for residents to cool off, eat and stay until each situation was helped. MCN Emergency Response Team Director James Nichols said two semi-truck loads of



MNN/Christina Good Voice
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Team distributed thousands of donated bottles of Gatorade to local fire stations as part of relief efforts from the Mannford fires. Gatorade were delivered and will be donated to over 60 volunteer fire departments working in Creek Nation territory. “It’s important that we keep our fellow firefighters hydrated,” Nichols said. “This is our way of helping us all stay healthy in a time of need and when resources are low.” In the wake of the Aug. 2 fire, the tribe’s Emergency Management Team, Lighthorse Tribal

Police and other tribal entities assisted with traffic control in Drumright, Okla., and established a command post as a central area for information. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation opened two of its tribal community centers Aug. 4 to all in need, as cooling stations and resource referral. The Tulsa Creek Indian Community and Sapulpa Creek Indian Community centers both opened their doors to all, offering drinks, air conditioning and lounge areas for people. A dozen “cooling stations” were established to assist all citizens affected who might need to escape from the heat and to help with their immediate needs (see page 4 for a full list of cooling stations).

SEE RESPONSE - 5

Community and Human Services Program Fair set for Aug. 25

Media Release
MCN Community Services
OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will host a Community & Human Services Program Fair Saturday, Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the MCN Mound Building. All Community and Human Services programs will set up informational booths in the lobby where all managers and staff will be available for a meet and greet time and will be available to answer any questions. All Muscogee (Creek) citizens, community board members and community members are encouraged to attend this free event. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for all attendees. Door prizes will also be distributed. Participants do not have to be present to win but questionnaires must be submitted in order to be entered into drawings. Up for grabs are an iPad, iPod and Wal-Mart gift cards. For more information, please call 1-800-482-1979.



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Donation to Okmulgee Schools defeated at Quarterly Session

A donation to help the struggling Okmulgee school system was defeated at a Quarterly Session of the National Council

Sterling Cosper
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — A National Council Amendment authorizing a donation of \$90,000 to the Okmulgee Public School District failed 4-11 at a Quarterly Session of the National Council July 28.

Okmulgee Public Schools District Superintendent Tod Williams addressed the council during the session in support of NCA 12-116, citing state funding cuts as the need for this donation.

According to Williams, the amount requested was equal to two art teachers’ salaries being considered for elimination in order to balance the OPS’s budget.

Williams explained that 85 percent of the school system’s budget is made up of payroll. Salaries for these two or three positions could not be covered by money from the recently passed bond issue since it is earmarked to fund structural improvements to school property.

MCN Principal Chief George Tiger explained to the council that he offered assistance and the school board did not initially approach the tribe for funding.

“This is where our people decided to place our capitol complex, this is our capitol city. This would be an unprecedented move by the Creek Nation. We should place education as a high priority,” Tiger said.

Rep. Keeper Johnson asked about the money the MCN paid to the city of Okmulgee to purchase the Creek Council House and why those funds couldn’t be used to help the OPS instead of this proposed donation from the MCN.

“I think it’s poor planning on their part,” Johnson said.

Williams explained that the money from the council house is city funds and that their funding comes from the state of Oklahoma.

Another concern raised about this donation was whether or not other schools would ask the MCN for assistance. Williams reiterated Tiger’s argument about Okmulgee being the nation’s capitol city.

“This is the largest school in the county, and the most hard hit,” Williams said.

Tiger stated that many tribal members attend Okmulgee schools and that many of them would be “short changed” if the nation did not offer assistance.

Johnson reminded those in attendance that the council has directly denied Creek citizens educational funding in the past.

When asked whether this would be a one-time donation, Williams stated that he was hoping for at least a five-year commitment.

Williams said Okmulgee Public Schools would include Muscogee (Creek) culture in the art program with the funding and hoped the MCN would offer a longer commitment in exchange for this curriculum.

Several representatives asked about accountability of these funds and whether or not there would be a contract to make sure the cultural curriculum was implemented after a donation was provided.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Okmulgee Public Schools District Superintendent Tod Williams addressed the MCN National Council in support of NCA 12-116, which proposed a donation of \$90,000 to OPS.

Tiger stated that a contract could be drawn up.

Rep. Pearl Thomas sponsored the amendment. Reps. Shirlene Ade, David Nichols, Lena Wind and Thomas voted in favor.

During his quarterly report at the beginning of the session, Tiger presented Stephen ‘Wotko’ Long with the first Principal Chief’s Medal of Valor for rescuing a motorist post-accident from a burning vehicle July 5 on Oklahoma Highway 16. Tiger also issued the first Principal Chief’s Medal of Honor to John Beaver, Justin Giles and Andrew Raymond Lowe for their participation and facilitation of the Ocmulgee to Okmulgee Trail of Tears Bicycle Tour.

Other items on the agenda included the following:

- TR 12-093 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement between the MCN and Okmulgee County for improvements to the Gun Club Road East Project. Rep. Darrell Proctor sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.
- TR 12-094 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement between the MCN and McIntosh County for improvements to the Baptist Assembly Grounds Road Project. Reps. Wind and Proctor sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.
- TR 12-095 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract with Branstetter Building Company, LLC for the construction of an expansion to the MCN’s Federal Roads Shop. Proctor sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.
- TR 12-096 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement between the MCN and Okfuskee County for improvements to the Old Highway 62 Road Project. Reps. Franklin Coachman, Proctor and Wind sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.
- TR 12-097 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a pharmacy network agreement with Optumrx Inc. to provide covered prescription services to members at the MCN Division of Health. Rep. Johnnie Greene sponsored

the resolution, which passed 15-0.

- TR 12-098 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a business associate agreement and Oklahoma State immunization information system facility authorization with the State of Oklahoma Department of Health. Greene sponsored the resolution, which passed 14-0. Rep. Thomas Yahola was out of the room at the time of the vote.

- TR 12-099 amending TR-049 a tribal resolution of the MCN to define and authorize an oversight committee for Phase II of the River Spirit Casino Project to include the construction of a hotel. Rep. David Hill sponsored the resolution, which passed 13-2, with Johnson and Nichols voting against it.

- TR 12-100 authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board to execute an agreement with GSE Construction for the construction of an administration building at One Fire Casino. Reps. Robert Hufft, Mark Randolph and Nichols sponsored the resolution, which passed 14-1. Rep. Kara Medina voted against it.

- TR 12-101 recognizing tribal citizens John Beaver, Justin Giles and Andrew Raymond Lowe for the organization and creation of the Ocmulgee to Okmulgee Bicycle Tour. Speaker Sam Alexander sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.

- TR 12-103 authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a commercial surety application and indemnity agreement with Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. Rep. Adam Jones and Proctor sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-122 authorizing a special appropriation of \$2,150 to the Sapulpa Indian Community. Reps. Pete Beaver and Hill sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-127 authorizing a special appropriation of \$800 to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) youth. Johnson sponsored the resolution, which failed 2-13. Coachman and Johnson voted in favor of the amendment.

- NCA 12-128 amending Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code An-

notated (MCNCA) Title 26, entitled “Judicial Branch/Courts.” Speaker Alexander sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

This amendment allows for any tribal citizen to be elected as a Supreme Court Justice, eliminating the previous requirement of full tribal citizenship unless waived by a 2/3 vote of the National Council.

- NCA 12-129 authorizing a special appropriation of \$2,348.18 for unpaid funeral services of a MCN citizen. Yahola sponsored the amendment, which passed 14-0. Thomas was out of the room at the time of the vote.

- NCA 12-131 authorizing a special appropriation of \$25,566.36 to the Muskogee Indian Community. Reps. Eddie LaGrone and Beaver sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-133 authorizing a supplemental appropriation of \$15,000 to the environmental services 2012 fiscal year budget. LaGrone sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-134 authorizing a donation of \$20,000 to Medicine Rock Inc. Yahola sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-136 authorizing a special appropriation of \$7,237.32 to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) youth with prosthetics. Johnson sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-138 amending MCNCA Title 20, Section 1-102, entitled “Administrative Management.” Jones sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-140 authorizing a donation to Rob Wallace for U.S. Congress. Speaker Alexander sponsored the resolution, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-141 amending MCNCA Title 21, Section 5-105 entitled “Age Limit for Gaming” to remove the prohibition for persons under the age of 16 years to be on premises where gaming is being conducted. Hufft sponsored the resolution, which passed 12-2. Medina and Johnson voted against it. Greene was out of the room at the time of the vote.

According to River Spirit CEO Pat Crofts, this change will allow those under 16 into the casino’s hotel once it is completed. Crofts stated that the gaming floor has been rearranged to prevent minors’ exposure to gambling when dining in the casino’s restaurants.

- NCA 12-143 authorizing a special appropriation of \$1,629.44 for unpaid funeral services of a Muscogee (Creek) citizen. Nichols sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.
- NCA 12-145 authorizing a political contribution of \$2,000 to Okla. state Rep. Wade Rousselot. Speaker Alexander sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

- NCA 12-148 authorizing a special appropriation of \$440,000 to the Checotah Indian Community. Jones sponsored the amendment, which passed 14-1. Nichols voted against it.

- NCA 12-150 authorizing a donation to the Native American United Methodist Church in Anaheim. Calif. Rep. Hill sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.

SEE QUARTERLY - 3

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QUARTERLY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

- NCA 12-151 authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the College of the Muscogee Nation to construct a community higher education student auxiliary services building. Johnson sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.
- NCA 12-152 appropriating \$2,000,000 to construct a community higher education student auxiliary services building for the College of the Muscogee Nation. Johnson sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.
- NCA 12-153 authorizing a special appropriation of \$5,000 to Montesoma Indian Baptist Church. Coachman and Wind sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.
- NCA 12-154 authorizing a donation to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Southeast Oklahoma. Jones sponsored the amendment, which passed 15-0.
- LaGrone and Hufft were excused from this session.

Creek man saves driver from fiery crash

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — “Really, it was like I wasn’t really there, but I knew I had to get him out.”

That’s what was running through his mind when Steven “Wotko” Long and another driver, Benjamin Lane, rescued James Hodge from a flaming car wreck on Highway 16 in Okmulgee County, July 5.

“I was going to Holdenville, to a funeral,” Long said, “when I came upon a cloud of dust and I saw flames coming from the ditch. I saw the car had fire on the dash and windshield.”

Long said he pulled over and saw that the driver, Hodge, was unconscious in the front seat.

Long first tried to pull Hodge out from the back seat, but couldn’t. He next tried the front door and discovered that the driver’s seat belt was still fastened. Flames coming up from the floorboard prevented Long from reaching the seat belt, so he tried to wake Hodge to get him out of the car. Hodge’s feet were burnt so he couldn’t walk. Minutes after Long and Lane had pulled Hodge to safety, the car’s gas tank exploded.

As it happened, Long wasn’t worrying about his own safety as he struggled to extricate the driver.

“I was worried about my back. It had been hurt before and I was thinking, ‘please don’t go out on me now.’ It was scary, but it didn’t hit me until I got home.”



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Steven “Wotko” Long accepts Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger’s Medal of Valor at the July 28 Quarterly Session of the MCN National Council.

The explosion spread flames along the dry grass, forcing rescuers to move Hodge twice and causing more trouble, Long said. Someone told Long that the fire had spread to the grass under his car, so he had to move it. That’s when he thought that enough help had arrived on the scene, so he decided to go on his way. He remained unidentified by

authorities until family members brought his bravery to the attention of Muscogee (Creek) Nation officials.

Long visited Hodge at the hospital and met his family, “As soon as I saw them through the glass, they looked at me and asked, “Are you the one?”

Long recalls they sang a hymn

and prayed together, giving thanks that no one was killed,

“That’s the part I liked,” he said.

At the July 28 Quarterly Session of the National Council, MCN Principal Chief George Tiger presented Long with the Principal Chief’s Medal Of Valor.

“That was wonderful, like walking on heaven.”



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MCN Reintegration Program accepting donations for fire victims

Media Release
MCN Reintegration Program

HENRYETTA — Several citizens within the Creek Nation boundaries have been affected by the recent raging wildfires that spread through Oklahoma. Many people were left homeless with nothing but the clothes on their back.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program is accepting donations at their office in Henryetta for victims in need now through Aug. 21.

A drop-off site for items at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex in Okmulgee will also be available via a box trailer set up

in the mound building parking lot beginning Aug. 22.

Donated items will be distributed Aug. 24 in Mannford until supplies last.

Items such as hygiene items, bedding, linens, paper goods, school supplies and toys may be dropped off at the Reintegration Program office located in Henryetta, Okla.

For more information, please contact the MCN Reintegration Program located at 615 E. Corporation St., in Henryetta at 918-652-2676.

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Fires in Creek County take their toll



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Homes across the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were burned in the Creek County fires. The fire reached Lucy Cloud's yard, but spared her home on the outskirts of Bristow. Pictured below is a Bible found in Cloud's yard. Many families lost all their personal belongings.

Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

BRISTOW — Fires across the state of Oklahoma recently destroyed hundreds of homes and nearly 60,000 acres in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation territory of Creek County, according to the Creek County Sheriff's Office. After speculation by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as to how the fire began and examination of the evidence including looking into allegations the fire was started on tribal land, the fire has since been determined to be on public land. Regardless of how the fire began, many who lost their possessions are looking for strength to carry on.



Lucy Cloud has always had faith in the Creator. Throughout good times and bad, her faith in a higher power always kept her grounded, even after a cheerful Friday afternoon traveling on her way home from the Falls Creek Baptist Assembly campgrounds Aug. 3.

Cloud spent a week there with her church, True Vine Indian Baptist Church, at 'Indian Falls Creek,' a week that many Native American Baptist churches from around the state congregate to enjoy a time of encouragement and inspiration at a site near Davis, Okla.

As Cloud enjoyed the ride home on the church bus with many members of her congregation, her son David Cloud, contacted her. David, who lives just down the

road from his mother, told her that there was a big grass fire that had destroyed lots of the property around where they lived and was now approaching both their homes.

When she finally arrived, Cloud saw what her son had described. Cloud heard her brother, Chapman, and her mother, Nellie, had homes nearby, which were destroyed.

Although Cloud's house was spared, it came after a struggle from a devastating forest fire that saw so many Native and non-Native homes completely abolished. Cloud's house was saved with thanks in part to the BIA firefighters in the area assisting and protecting the many Native American homes in the area.

Many tribes from the Muscogee (Creek), Cheyenne, Seneca, Cherokee and Sac and Fox made themselves available when the fires became a major priority at 3 a.m., Thursday morning.

Charlie Harley from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Eastern Oklahoma Region Firefighters was battling the blazes. Harley, like other Native firefighters including John Buckley and Scott Kopessah have been going non-stop since these fires began. They've gotten very little rest, even after the fires were finally put under control.

Scott Bradshaw from the National Interagency Fire Center

Department began to access the damage as well. One important facet of the investigation will be the start of the fire and the 'hot spots' as well.

"A 'hot spot' is the area that usually is the beginning of the fire," explains Harley, "every fire has a story and you just have to get down into the ashes and look at everything. If you find your hot spot, you can usually begin to find other answers too," Bradshaw said.

In another region of the fire's trail, three men were taken into custody by local authorities for possible arson charges.

Cloud's house was saved and she thanks God that no member of her family was hurt. Near Cloud's house lies her family cemetery plots. The family honors their deceased in the traditional way of constructing wooden arbors over the grave sites. The fires came close, but not enough to do any damage.

Later, after the all the charred objects and black trees were smoldering and gray ash was the only thing to be seen for miles, Harley points to two cedar trees on Lucy's property that he says provide hope.

"The cedar on the right is all burnt and will not survive, but the cedar on the left is still green, despite all the damage and it will be alright. With Lucy's faith and a resilient cedar too, this Muscogee (Creek) lady and her family, will overcome and make it," he said.



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Fires reached the edge of Cloud's family cemetery. None of the grave sites were burned by the wildfires that ravaged other parts of Creek County.



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“Caring when it counts”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For more information, contact Neely Tsoodle, MCN Public Relations Director at 918-758-8269.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of HARPER,)
)
SAMUEL EDWARD HARPER,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
vs.) Case No. DV 2012-42
)
DEANNA LYNN HARPER,)
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Deanna Lynn Harper

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2012-42, styled In re the Marriage of Harper, Samuel Edward Harper, Petitioner and Deanna Lynn Harper, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Petition for Dissolution of Marriage* from you.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 23rd day of August 2012, at 1:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 5th day of July, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Sheldon McClenathan
(Deputy)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
JUL 5 2012
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
) Case No. JV-2011-03
)
)
)
)
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)
)
)

T.B., DOB: 07-23-97
B.B., DOB: 09-19-05

Alleged Deprived Children.

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Reginald Benson, Natural Father of T.B.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 9th day of October 2012 at 1:00 P.M.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remains a ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

G. Bil
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of : Case No. GD-2012-11
M.P., R.G. and A.A.H.,) Judge Gregory Bigler
Minor Children.)

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To: Armondo Alexander Herrera, Sr., and Abel Garcia

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Children in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2012-11, styled In re the Guardianship of M.P., R.G. and A.A.H., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 23rd day of August, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 19 day of July, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By: Jobee King
(Deputy)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hone, MCN#641

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Muscogee (Creek) Nation launches scholarship fundraising campaign



Mvskoke Media/Tyler Roberds
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation established the Creek Nation Education Foundation, which includes privately-funded higher education grants like the Philip Coon Scholarship donated by MCN Principal Chief George Tiger for \$1,000.

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE —The Muscogee (Creek) Nation kicked off its student scholarship campaign drive on July 1. This initiative fulfills Principal Chief George Tiger’s promise to support education by helping provide scholarship support, therefore advancing MCN citizens into higher-paying jobs.

The Creek Nation Foundation Inc., which had its inception in 1975, is a charitable institution and is a duly constituted 501 (c)(3) entity with existing recognition of exemption from taxation from the IRS.

Chief Tiger’s objective is to raise more than \$10 million over the next four years to help both the unemployed and the under-employed Muscogee citizens.

The Chief’s primary educational concerns are assisting tribal citizens in developing necessary job skills and to hold the correct educational credentials to compete in high-technological work environments. The Nation’s current date indicate that many districts in the MCN experience an unemployment rate which exceeds 10 percent.

The Chief’s economic development plan calls for the advancement of a skilled work force with current job opportunities. Today, many of these positions are often filled with non-Creeks. Chief Tiger was the first contributor to the Creek Nation Foundation, Inc. when he established the ‘Phillip Coon Scholarship Fund’ in honor of all veterans who served the country.

The Chief encourages Muscogee citizens to pursue careers in healthcare, law, business, information technology and technical occupations.

Donors have the option of directing how their gift will be used. If donors provide for the general support for the foundation’s activities, this would allow the Foundation board to

determine how best to allocate the money. The donation could be for either a specific student or perhaps for a particular educational activity.

All gifts and donations received by the Foundation are placed in three categories: the General Fund, Designated Fund or a Special Fund. Donations may be gifts of stock, particularly appreciated security, which would support the Foundation while offering a tax benefit to the donor. Memorial Donations can be made as a memorial for a loved one, and Planned Giving may be generated by donors who wish to remember the Foundation in their wills. A donor may also want to name the Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

The time pledge donation is a commitment to donate a specific amount of money for a specified number of years.

The Creek Nation Foundation, Inc. will give citizens an opportunity to contribute to the future health, education and general welfare of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. To contribute, donors may also complete the form to the right with their information.

Four scholarships have been established since the Foundation’s kickoff date: the Ecke ‘Mvnokeckv: Ridge/Giles Scholarship for Single Mothers, Mahaley Tarpalechee Jones-Mother’s Gift, Susan Colleen Wilson Memorial for Orphans and the Phillip Coon Scholarship.

For more information, please contact Sandra Peters at speters@mcn-nsn.gov or 918-732-7624.

Information is also available on the Foundation website: <http://creeknationfoundation-inc.org>



MCN Head Start centers accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

RYAL — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start centers in Ryal and Wainwright are now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. Ryal Public Schools will be providing iPads for the students and both schools will have an after school program.

Requirements for all programs include: parents income

verification, (last year’s income tax, pay stubs, W-2 form, TANF letter, SSI Letter, or statement from employer), child’s immunization record, child’s medical card, child’s CDIB (if applicable) child’s birth certificate, child’s social security card. For more information, contact the MCN Head Start office at 918-758-7898 or 918-732-7899.

School Clothing applications available through Oct. 26

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2012/2013, is now accepting applications until Oct. 26, 2012 at 5 p.m.

This program is open to all Muscogee (Creek) citizen students

no matter where they live in the United States.

Call 918-549-2473 or toll free at 1-800-482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed directly.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Ok-

mulgee, OK. 74447.

Please do not fax or e-mail the applications.

For more information, contact the School Clothing Program at 918-549-2473 or toll free at 1-800-482-1979, ext. 2473.

MCN Office of Child Care awarded \$500 from local organizations

Media Release
MCN Office of Child Care

OKMULGEE — The Office of Child Care has recently received two donations to enhance the Nation’s Child Development Center’s (CDC) libraries. The first donation of \$500.00 came from the University of Oklahoma Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity (SAE) and Native Noise Entertainment owners Rick and Katie Condit of Blanchard. Both organizations have worked together on many projects over the years and have built a special bond and now would like to share that with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and their future as well.

The second donation was received from the Okmulgee Block Buster Video. Store Manager, Crystal Petree wanted to bring the community together and promote it in the store. The store held a book drive for three weeks and collected 214 books. These books will be used in the Okmulgee



MCN Office of Childcare/Courtesy
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care received a \$500 donation to be used toward books from Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and Native Noise Entertainment of Blanchard.

CDC.

The Office of Child Care Manager, Barbara O’Neal would like to thank the SAE Fraternity of OU, the Condits, and the Family Video

of Okmulgee for their donations. These donations will help replace and add new books to the center’s libraries.

Roberts takes first place in language fair

Media Release
MCN Language Program

OKLAHOMA CITY — Brian (Nokose) Lee Roberts Jr. participated in the 10th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma earlier this spring. Roberts sung ‘Cesvs Vc Vnokeces’ in Creek. He won first place in his divi-

sion of Pre-K through second grade in the individual Song in the Native Language. First place winners also sang at the Rotunda at the Capitol April 9.

Roberts met Rep. McPeak at the Capitol. Roberts is the son of Brian Roberts Sr., and Theresa Marshall. He is the grandson of Wilbert and KoKo Lowe, Skipper Roberts and Darlene Marshall.



Creek Nation Foundation, Inc.

Student Scholarship Campaign Drive

Contribution and Donation Form

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address of Employee: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Two Ways of Donating

Method 1 - Making Your Donation by Writing a Check

_____Yes, I will contribute to the Student Scholarship Campaign Drive and will be forwarding a check in the amount of \$_____to the Creek Nation Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Method 2 - Making Your Donation On-Line

_____Yes, I will contribute to the Student Scholarship Campaign Drive and will be making my donation on-line at www.CreekNationFoundationInc.org

In addition, I want my contributions to be:

_____Unrestricted

_____Restricted – Please indicate the restriction in the space below:

In addition, I want my contributions to be:

_____In the name, memory or honor of: _____

_____Deposited in the Claude Cox Scholarship Fund Account

_____Deposited in the Bill Fife Scholarship Fund Account

_____Deposited in the Perry Beaver Scholarship Fund Account

_____Deposited in the Phillip Coon Scholarship Fund Account

Note: All contributions are tax deductible.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Creek students ‘WINS’ with internship program

Sterling Cosper
MNN Reporter

WASHINGTON, D.C. — “I first heard about it from someone in my class. I noticed she had a WINS shirt on and I asked her what it was. She told me Washington Internship for Native Students,” said Muscogee (Creek) student Jalin Keawphalouk.

The WINS program was developed by American University to give American Indian, Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian students the opportunity to attend various courses on Native American issues and provide them with internship experience at various agencies throughout Washington, D.C.

Students participated in various internships this summer including: Indian Health Services, the Social Security Administration, Census Bureau, Department of Veteran’s Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation.

School Program Assistant of Professional and Extended Studies Yeree Wooi stated that some students end up influencing policy at these agencies during their internships or receiving job offers upon completion.

“A lot of students will bring in their knowledge of the needs in Indian Country from their reservations and be able to influence the policy here in Washington, D.C., as well as learn about it. Quite a few actually stay in the D.C., area and do their work for Indian Country here,” she said.

Students who have graduated within the last six months or are still in enrolled may participate in the WINS program up to two times as long as they completed their internship and course work during their first participation in the WINS program.

“Sometimes the same agency sponsors them again so they are able to continue their project,” Wooi said.

According to Wooi, this continued participation can help enhance student’s relationships with their internship sponsors.



Photo Courtesy/Jalin Keawphalouk
Muscogee (Creek) students (left to right) Sarah Dill, Jalin Keawphalouk and Jordan Harmon participated in the WINS program and are pictured above.

“Right now we have a student who became the research assistant of a professor at the Census Bureau and he is participating in things like writing proposals and grants,” she said.

Other students will end up staying at AU to complete their degrees.

“We have students that fall in love with the program in the summer and decide to finish up their major here in the fall through the main campus’ courses,” said Wooi.

There are three different internships offered throughout the year; the summer program that lasts eight weeks and gives students six college credit hours and the fall and spring program both lasting 14 weeks, and providing students with nine credit hours.

Each internship structure provides its own advantages and experiences

“The AU courses they take will pertain to their major and that’s what is great about the fall and spring. Summer is very in-depth about Native American issues,” Wooi said.

During the fall and spring pro-

gram students take and internship course in the evening and usually do courses in their major part-time. Students are expected to work full-time in their sponsored internships from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

College freshmen are not allowed in the program due to this intense schedule.

“It is such a rigorous course load for students and because of that we think that freshmen might not be ready for working full-time and taking these courses,” Wooi said.

Keawphalouk who participated in this year’s summer program gave a first hand account of the experience.

“We worked eight hours a day and took classes at night. We were in class Tuesday-Thursday 7-9 p.m. We mainly toured Washington, D.C. on the weekends,” he said.

Muscogee (Creek) students Jordan Harmon and Sarah Dill also attended the program along with Keawphalouk.

Keawphalouk plans on returning to the program and recom-

mends that other students participate as well.

“This is my first summer but I do plan on going back. It was a really good program and I would recommend it to anyone,” he said.

Most students accepted will receive a full scholarship to attend the program that will cover the cost of tuition, travel to and from Washington, D.C., lodging, a meal plan and the cost of activities scheduled by the program.

Cost for activities not pertaining directly to the program such as medical care and independent social activities as well as a \$200 non-refundable program deposit are the responsibility of the student. Students may apply to their independent tribes to help cover these additional costs.

Applicants must be a member of a federally-recognized tribe and complete the application process.

The application deadline for the coming fall semester is Sept. 1.

This application and further details about WINS can be located at the program’s website at <http://www.american.edu/washington-semester/wins/index.cfm>

DePaola selected as Scotch Plains, N.J., mayor

Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

SCOTCH PLAINS, N.J. — One can take a Muscogee (Creek) out of the homeland, but they can’t take the homeland out of the Muscogee (Creek), just ask tribal citizen Mary Thygesen DePaola of Scotch Plains, N.J.

DePaola took the helm of Mayor of Scotch Plains June 4, as the first Muscogee (Creek) woman to have done so.

“I had served on the Town Council for four years before becoming Mayor,” explained DePaola, “our previous mayor, Nancy Malool, stepped down.”

Town Council members voted DePaola in as mayor. At the time, she was serving as Deputy Mayor until Nov. 6, when will enter the race for mayor of the city’s general election.

“I asked my party if they would support me as mayor. I was going to run anyway when the election was held, hopefully I will be successful in that election and then I will serve in that capacity for the next four years.”

When DePaola is not serving her civic duty, she also helps with the Scotch Plains YMCA where she serves as Vice President. DePaola also goes to some of her children’s classes and shares the tribe’s culture and history.

“I have six children, from kindergarten to high school. I go to the kids classes and share traditional stories, I wear my traditional Creek dress, share stories, I even made frybread for one of the classes,” laughs DePaola, “I want my kids to be proud of their Native American heritage.”



MCN businessman raises historic theater from ashes

Sterling Cosper
MNN Reporter

TULSA — The Admiral Twin Drive-In Theater in Tulsa has seen more action and drama than many of the movies shown throughout the years on its twin projection screens.

However, just like the heroes in movies at the historic theater, the Admiral Twin has survived another day.

The Twin reopened in June after it burned down in 2010 and was vandalized during the reconstruction process.

Co-owner of the Admiral Twin and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Blake Smith shared some of the updates he and his business partner Scott Peace have made to the historic theater.

“We added a lot of modern amenities like a new concession stand, kitchen and new bathrooms,” Smith said.

Smith also shared plans to upgrade the theater to digital projec-

tion in two years.

The Admiral Twin Theater opened in 1951 and was originally called the Modernaire Drive-In, which had only one screen.

“They added the second screen I believe the second year they were open and changed the name to the Admiral Twin Drive-In because the theater grounds used to stretch all the way to Admiral Street before they put the highway in,” Smith said.

In 1982, Francis Ford Coppola shot scenes from his movie The Outsiders based on author S.E. Hinton’s book by the same name.

“That is sort of our claim to fame, she was a very big fan of going to the drive-In. It was a big hang

out for students back then and that’s why it is in the book,” Smith said.

Smith’s father Richard Smith purchased the theater in 1987 and he and Peace bought the Twin from his father in 2000.

“It has always been a high-grossing drive-in. During the ’50s and ’60s there were as many as 10 or 11 drive-ins in the Tulsa area and now it’s the only one,” said Smith.

It was this popularity that inspired Tulsa res-

idents to donate over \$30,000 toward reconstructing the theater after the 2010 fire and with this show of support from the community, Smith gained the confidence that rebuilding the Twin was a worthy investment.

Beyond its historical notoriety, Smith explained another reason the Twin has outlasted other drive-ins.

“Drive-ins mostly went away because of land value. If we sat a mile to five miles south, we probably wouldn’t be a drive-in. We could have taken that land and sold it off for development but because we sit in a funny area in reference to the highway that’s why it



COMMUNITY CALENDAR AUGUST 2012

RESOURCE ROOM NOW AVAILABLE IN WETUMKA

WETUMKA — A resource room is now available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., for job searches, resume and homework at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Southern Regional Office, located at 333 S. Washita in Wetumka, Okla.

For more information, contact Darleata Tiger or Natasha Harjo at 405-452-1101.

TCIC GARAGE SALE SET FOR AUG. 18

TULSA — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community will host a garage sale benefitting members' attendance to the National Indian Conference On Aging Sept. 13-18.

Breakfast and lunch will be served at the event and tables are available.

For more information, please contact Tulsa Creek Indian Community at 918-298-2464.

CAMP REVIVAL SET FOR AUG. 20-25

HENRYETTA — Tiger Moun-

tain Camp Grounds is hosting an all believers revival" entitled "Fire in the Camp."

The event will feature a variety of musical guests and speakers and will run from Aug. 20-25. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

RV hookups and lodging will be available. For more information call Norman Daniel at 918-441-8779, Robert Lay Jr. at 918-652-5340.

BERRYHILL/RANDALL FAMILY REUNION SET FOR AUG. 25

HENRYETTA — The Berryhill and Randall Family Reunion is set for Saturday, Aug. 25 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Wilson Indian Community Center in Henryetta.

For more information, call 918-355-1442 or 918-304-4002.

MARSHALL FAMILY REUNION SET FOR SEPT. 3

WETUMKA — The Lewis and Mandy Marshall Family Reunion will be held Monday, Sept. 3, at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

A pot-luck meal will be served

and attendees are encouraged to contribute. There will be door prizes for adults and prizes for children's games.

For more information, contact Pauline Levi at 405-737-0174 or Rosalee Marshall at 405-683-2101.

MORRIS INDIAN COMMUNITY TO ELECT OFFICERS SEPT. 6

MORRIS — The Morris Indian Community will elect officers Sept. 6, 2012 for Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms at Trinity Baptist Church during the regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m.

The term of office shall be for a period of two years beginning Oct. 1 and ending Sept. 30.

Letters of intent will be accepted through Aug. 30 and should be mailed to: Morris Indian Community, P.O. Box 22, Morris, OK 74445.

For more information, contact Lizanne Holata at 918-319-0406 or Billy Jack Wilson at 918-752-7195

GIC OPEN MARKET BAZAAR SET FOR SEPT. 8

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Indian Community will host a fund-raising bazaar Sept. 8 at the GIC Community Building from 7 a.m. - noon and from 7-9 p.m., weather permitting.

The event is open to the public and will feature items for barter, sale or trade including flea market, garden and Native American arts and crafts. A concession will be available.

Limited booth space is available for pre-registered vendors on a first come first served basis.

For more information, contact GIC Treasurer Eleanor Irene Van-Buskirk at 918-946-0077.

OKMULGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY TO ELECT OFFICERS SEPT. 10

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Community will elect officers Sept. 10 for the following positions: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms.

The election will be held at the OIC Community Building beginning at 6 p.m. For more informa-

tion, please contact Ginni Hall at 918-752-0018.

DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY MEETING SET FOR SEPT. 11

DUCK CREEK — The regularly scheduled Duck Creek Indian Community meeting set for Sept. 4 has been rescheduled to Sept. 11 beginning at 7 p.m.

For more information, please contact DCIC Secretary Vickie Tiger by email at dukck@beggstelco.net.

MONTESOMA BAPTIST 125TH ANNIVERSARY SET FOR SEPT. 22

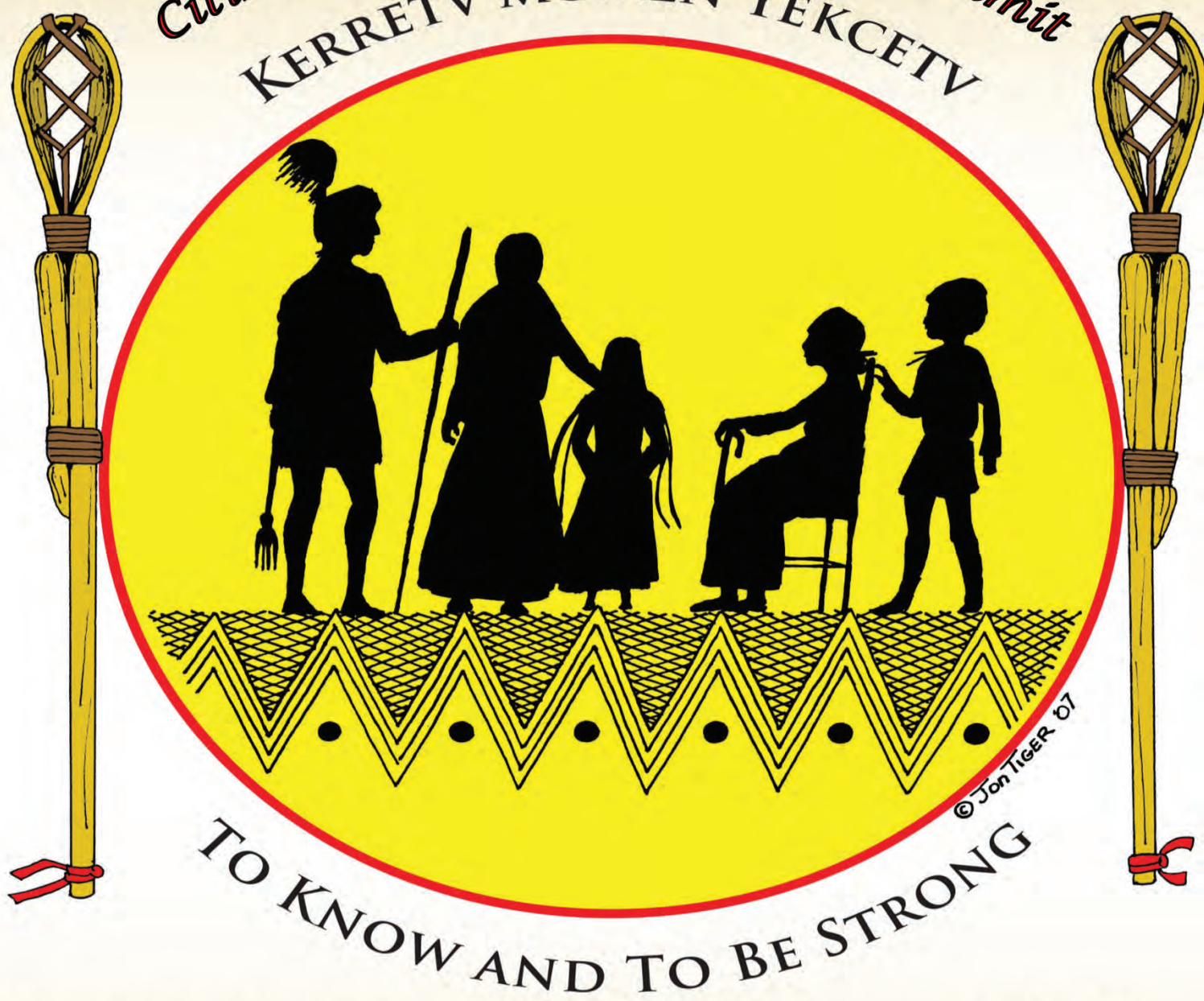
OKEMAH — Montesoma Indian Baptist Church will host its 125th Anniversary Celebration, Sept. 22-23 beginning at 5 p.m., Saturday. Festivities will continue with a special service later that evening at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 6 a.m., and a speaker at 11 a.m.

All are welcome to attend. For more information call 918-623-1811 or 918-623-9522.

Save the Date

Sixth Annual

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit
KERRETV MOMEN YEK CETV



Although this event is primarily for MCN citizens, their spouses or significant support persons and other American Indians living in MCN communities are also welcome. For information contact: Irene Culley (918) 636-8735 or Duane Meadows (918) 695-1325

August 28, 2012

Okemah First Baptist Church

120 S. 6th

Okemah, OK 74859

Summit is Free



MCN Citizens’ Diabetes Awareness Summit set for Aug. 28 in Okemah

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKEMAH — The sixth annual MCN Citizens’ Diabetes Awareness Summit will be held at the Okemah First Baptist Church, located at 120 South 6th St., in Okemah, Okla., Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2012.

Participants should arrive from 7 - 8:45 a.m., for cholesterol checks (fasting is required) and registration for the event. Choices of exercise available include: walking, Tai Chi, yoga, Zumba or chair exercises which will begin at 7:30 a.m.

The summit program will be held from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided and the free event is open to all tribal citizens as well as spouses or sup-

port persons and other American Indians living in MCN communities.

Nationally recognized speakers include Dr. Darryl Tonemah, a member of the Kiowa/Comanche/Tuscarora tribes, has worked in the field of health and wellness for over 20 years. He has given workshops and keynotes across the United States, Canada and Mexico. He has recently been named to the Board of Directors for the American Diabetes Association. He is a partner in the Native Health Group (NHG) with primary goal of decreasing health disparities among the Native American population and increase access to care.



Lisa Pivec is the director of Community Health Promotion for Cherokee Nation Health Services. She holds a master’s degree from NSU in college teaching with an emphasis in health and has been with the Cherokee Nation since 1991. She currently is the principal investigator for several funding agreements with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

She directs the Healthy Nation program, including the Male Seminary Recreation Center and serves as lead staff on the recently funded National Public Health Improvement Initiative from Centers for Disease Control.

For more information, please contact Duane Meadows, at (918) 695-1325 or Irene Culley at (918) 636-8735.

MCN Tribal Driveways Program now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Tribal Driveways Program

OKMULGEE — The Tribal Driveways Program is accepting applications for repair of accessible driveways for property owners who reside within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries. Applicant must be enrolled with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribe. Hours of operation are 8 a.m.- 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. We are located on the Creek Nation Capitol Complex area between the Indian Health Service building and the old Head Start building in Okmulgee, Okla.

The Tribal Driveways Program addresses the needs of our Muscogee (Creek) Nation elders and tribal citizens that require services due to the poor condition of their private drives. ELIGIBILITY: (Provide copies of)
1. Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship card
2. Warranty Deed (in Creek owner’s name)
3. Oklahoma Driver’s License or ID
4. Muscogee (Creek) Nation

citizen will be limited to no more than one (1) service every four (4) years
Organization applications are also available for Muscogee (Creek) Nation ceremonial grounds, tribal towns, community centers, churches and when needed, family cemeteries that are within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries.
For more information or to request an application call 918-732-7651 or 1-800-482-1979.



Honor what is SACRED

Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It’s a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800

QUIT NOW

Free help

784-8669

OKhelpline.com

Change a life. Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent





Children. Keepers of our tradition.

Preserve our heritage, become a foster/adoption parent today. In the State of Oklahoma, there are Muscogee Creek Children in state and tribal custody looking for a place to call “cuko” (home). Become a Foster/Adoptive tribal home.

For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett at (918)732-7883 OR email: tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

MCN Division of Health attends Systems of Care conference



MCN Division of Health/Courtesy
The MCN Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Program attended the Georgetown University 2012 Training Institute on improving mental health services for youth at risk for mental health challenges.

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

ORLANDO, Fla. — In early July, the Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Program (BHSAS) attended the Georgetown University 2012 Training Institute on improving mental health services for children, adolescents, and young adults that are at risk for mental health challenges. In an effort to increase awareness and empower families, BHSAS sponsored three community youth and parents as well as Health Division and tribal leadership to attend this annual conference.

This conference is mandatory for System of Care grant communities like Muscogee (Creek) Nation and it emphasized home and community-based care. A focus is placed on comprehensive and individualized services and supports family-driven and youth-guided care provided within the least restrictive environment. At its core, System of Care is not a separate program or service, rather, the system of care approach is a set of values and principles that provide a framework for overall health systems integration and reform.

For four and a half days, conference participants attended different workshops and institutes outlining innovative approaches on how the system of care approach can guide efforts to improve children’s mental health service delivery in a dramatically changing environment. As part of their application to attend the grantee meeting,

the youth and parents each had to agree to participation in the training institutes or workshops.
MCN youth in attendance participated in a youth track that included educational workshops and an opportunity to meet Season 10 American Idol alum James Durbin.

Staff and parents attending the institutes enjoyed speaker Dewy Bozella who shared his 26-year struggle to prove his innocence. He found eventual success after he was wrongly convicted of murder in 1983. His message of finding strength and determination in the face of diversity spoke to all parents and staff in attendance.

Finally, one of the most exciting events of the training institutes came when MCN Second Chief Roger Barnett, Secretary of Health, Lt. Seneca Smith, and BHSAS staff had the opportunity to meet with SAMHSA administrator Gary Blau. Blau is a clinical psychologist and Chief of the Child, Adolescent and Family Branch of the federal Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and heads up the Systems of Care movement.

For more information on involvement with the MCN Systems of Care activities, please contact grant coordinator Jessica Seachris at 918-224-9307.

MCN Social Services client service hours 8:30 - 4 p.m.

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services is a client-based program and receives hundreds of calls and in-office visits on a daily basis. In order for caseworkers and or staff to efficiently and promptly complete their job, it is essential to allow time for employees to return calls within the 24-hour notice given to clients and to process applications in a timely manner.
Therefore, Social Services will only see clients and take phone calls between the hours of 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. The office will remain open from 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. A caseworker will be available for emergency cases only

(burial assistance or air conditioner) during non-client/ phone hours. Social Security and School Clothing Programs will remain open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Citizens who come in during those hours will be asked to fill out the Intake form, the receptionist will make copies of their documents and a caseworker will call them within 24 hours.
For an emergency during non-client/phone hours, please call: Monnie Underwood at 918-549-2555.
For an emergency after hours or on weekends, please call MCN Lighthouse at 918-732-7800.

Mvskoke Film Festival to showcase Native Films

Christina Good Voice
Mvskoke Media Manager

JENKS — The first annual Mvskoke Film Festival is calling for entries for the event, which will showcase the talents of Native filmmakers at the two-day festival Sept. 28 and 29.

Entries will be accepted until Sept. 14.

The festival will be held at Riverwalk Movies, 300 Riverwalk Terrace in Jenks, Okla.

“We are excited to bring this event to Tulsa and hope people really enjoy it,” said Gerald Wofford, Mvskoke Film Festival co-coordinator.

The festival will have seven categories: Documentary, Feature, Animation, Comedy, Short (not to exceed 30 minutes) and Student Film. The student category be broken down into two sub-categories which include college/high school and youth.

“The student category will be high school and college individually,” Wofford said.

A scholarship is also being created for both student categories, and will be awarded at an awards banquet the evening of Sept. 25. Winners of the festival entries will also be recognized at the banquet,

which will be a ‘red-carpet’ style event for attendees. The awards ceremony will feature a guest speaker, meal and sneak previews of the film entries.

Tickets are \$15 for the all-inclusive ticket, which will get you into the banquet and both days of the film screenings, \$10 for two-day screening ticket and \$5 for a one-day ticket to the screenings. Those who enter films will receive two complimentary banquet tickets and two, two-day screening passes.

For the official list of rules, please visit muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

A \$35 entry fee is required per entry for professional films, and a \$10 entry fee is required for students per entry.

Entries must be submitted in DVD or Blu-ray Disc format.

For more information about the festival and awards banquet, contact co-coordinators Gerald Wofford at 918-732-7635 or gwofford@mcn-nsn.gov or Christina Good Voice at 918-732-7630 or cgoodvoice@mcn-nsn.gov.



Mvskoke Hall of Fame nominations due Sept. 15

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will host the inaugural MVS KOKE Hall of Fame Induction Gala Oct. 11 at the River Spirit Event Center in Tulsa, Okla., from 6 - 9 p.m.

The MVS KOKE Hall of Fame replaces the Living Legends ceremony that was conducted during the annual festival and requires that nominated individuals must have brought recognition to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or made outstanding contributions to the quality of life and development. The inductee’s achievements may be local, national or international in scope.

Individuals inducted to the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame will be honored for their achievements in any of the following:

1. Arts - for endeavors which enhance and support artistic/cultural life and well-being;
2. Business/ Professional - for entrepreneurial activity, or pursuit of a specific profession and advancement of that profession, or including the establishment and successful operation of a business;
3. Voluntary Service - for voluntary activities and dedication that benefit the immediate and global community;
4. Public Affairs - for public service in areas such as social advocacy, environmental protec-

tion, international affairs, political action or organized labor.

Nominations or selection to the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame is not restricted to these fields and individuals may be inducted for their accomplishments in more than one area.



NOMINATION PROCEDURE

At the beginning of each year a campaign is commenced to solicit nominations to the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame. Through a campaign conducted through local media and mailings to Muscogee (Creek) Nation communities, nominations are requested from any member of the Muscogee Nation.

Upon receipt of all nominations by the deadline of Sept. 15, all nominations are reviewed to ensure there is enough background information on the attached forms to include them in the list of nominations for the Selection Committee to consider. Nominators are also allowed to show up in person or with a delegation to state their case in front of the

Selection Committee as to why their nominee is deserving of the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame Award.

The Selection Committee then chooses one individual. The Directors of the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame have agreed that there will be one award winner from each category. There will be four inductees each year.

When all nominations for the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame have been received and reviewed for proper documentation, they are distributed to the voting members. Subsequently a meeting is held to review all nominations and to develop a short list of nominees.

The inductee will receive a MVS KOKE Hall of Fame plaque and a portrait of them placed in the tribal complex.

Nominees who are not inducted but are selected as the second or third choices, by voting members of the MVS KOKE Hall of Fame are automatically nominated for the following year.

The event is black tie and traditional clothing gala. Sponsorship opportunities are available for this occasion.

For more information, please call 918-732-7992, or email tourism@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or visit www.themuscogecreeknation.com



ATTN: -MUSCOGEE VETERANS- MOTORCYCLE RIDERS



Situation: Yearly Veterans motorcycle ride is approaching.

Mission: Veteran motorcyclists will dine and watch movie at Admiral Twin Drive-In.

Execution: Veteran motorcyclists and 1 guest riding with veteran will:

1. Assemble at MCN Veterans building (VASO) at 1500 on Friday, 12 Oct 12
2. Group will depart VASO at 1505 and proceed to the restaurant - 5 & Diner, Highway 51 and Memorial, Tulsa, OK.
3. At 1730 group will depart restaurant and proceed to the Admiral Twin Drive-In, off Highway 244, Tulsa, OK.
4. Between 2100 and 2300 group will depart Drive-In theater and travel back to VASO.

Administrative: VASO will pay for dinner and admission to movie for veteran and 1 guest.

1. Veteran must be Muscogee (Creek) citizen
2. Veteran allowed 1 guest and guest must be on motorcycle with veteran.
3. Refreshments at Drive-In theater will be responsibility of veteran.
4. VASO’s company car will be trace vehicle.
5. Veterans must bring their vest; VASO will transport vests in car.
6. Vest must be worn at restaurant and Drive-In theater.

Communication: Muscogee Veterans please call Ken Davis or Shawn Taryole by 1700, 11 Oct 12 to register for the event at phone numbers: (918) 732-7739 or (918) 732-7745.

MCN Social Services Elder AC Program available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The air conditioner program provides window units for enrolled Creek citizens 60 years of age or older who have no air conditioning or existing air conditioning is inadequate.

Those under 60 years of age who suffer from or are otherwise prone to chronic illness are also eligible to apply. Both renters and homeowners may apply. Citizens are responsible for pick up and installation of air conditioners.

- Applicants must be enrolled

Muscogee (Creek) tribal members

- At least one member of the household must be considered as vulnerable:
 - Elder (60 years or older)
 - Medically needy as determined by a qualified health practitioner

Required Documents

- Air Conditioner application (may be completed at office or downloaded from MCN website)
- Citizenship cards for all household members (CDIB cards not accepted)

- If medically needy, a statement from a medical doctor of medical necessity
- Notarized statement from a non-family member that the applicant's home has no air conditioner or existing air conditioner is inadequate
- Additional documents may be required based on individual circumstances.

For questions or additional information contact Social Services at 918-549-2445 or 1-800-482-1979.

MCN Social Services Energy Assistance Program available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Applications for the MCN Energy Assistance Program are now being processed. Applicants should submit a copy of the following documents required to determine eligibility:

LIHEAP Participants

- Current electric bill (must be in applicant and/or spouse's name)
- Citizenship card(s) or CDIB card(s) for all household members; if non-native, include driver's license or birth certificate
- Social Security card(s) for all household members
- Income or lack of income

for all household members 18 years or older (check stub, unemployment benefits verification, and food stamp or commodities verification will be accepted)

- Written statement stating: I, ___, authorize Creek Nation Social Services to sign my application on my behalf. I have not received assistance for my cooling bill from any other agency, community center, etc., within the past 12 months. Applicant must sign, date, and leave a phone number.

Tribal Energy Participants

- Current electric bill (must be in applicant and/or spouse's name)
- Citizenship card(s) for all

household members; if non-native, include driver's license or birth certificate

- Social Security card(s) for all household members
- Written statement stating: I, ___, authorize Creek Nation Social Services to sign my application on my behalf. Applicant must sign, date, and leave a phone number.

Once the applicant has received an approval letter, he/she will need to bring the approval letter to the office on any Friday in July to pick up their educational material bag.

For questions or additional information contact Social Services at 918-549-2445 or 1-800-482-1979.



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MOVIE NIGHT!



ATTENTION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) VETERANS ALL BRANCHES

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting

“MOVIE NIGHT”
(Friday, 19 October 2012)

• Showtime - 1900 Hrs.

Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)

Movie - **“THE LOST BATTALION”** (with Rick Schroder)

Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge) • Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)

Smoking Lamp is Lit • Price of Admission - FREE (Adults only)

• Muscogee Veterans plus one adult guest

Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745



This facility is regulated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Public Gaming



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